



*Celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

## **FACT SHEET**

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### **Media contact**

Christine Teo Kim Yan  
Assistant Manager  
Corporate Communications Office  
Nanyang Technological University  
Tel : 6790 6052  
Mobile : 9741 4433  
Email : [christine@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:christine@ntu.edu.sg)

**Singapore, 17 DECEMBER 2005**

## **NTU HONOURS OUTSTANDING ALUMNI WITH INAUGURAL NANYANG ALUMNI AWARDS**

### **Brief descriptions of award recipients**

#### Nanyang Distinguished Alumni Award

Name of recipient	Dr Liew Choong Chin, 刘宗正
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Science in Biology, 1960
Achievements and highlights	Dr Liew is a leader in the emerging field of molecular medicine and disease-specific genomics research. His work in the cardiovascular system has been widely acknowledged to represent the most comprehensive analysis of genes expressed in a single human organ and will serve as a key to facilitate the understanding of cardiovascular development and complex heart diseases. As the founder of the Cardiac Gene Unit at the University of Toronto, Canada, and the Cardiovascular Genome Center at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, his contribution to these bodies is highly commendable.

Name of recipient	Mr Tan Lip-Bu, 陈立武
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Science in Physics, 1978
Achievements and highlights	He holds in his hands more than US\$1.6 billion dollars in investment funds that have helped create nearly 300 companies, with more than 60 of them going public, including such big names as Cypress Semiconductor and Sina.com. Named "Venture Capitalist of the Year" at the 2001 Asian Venture Capital Awards in Hong Kong, Tan Lip-Bu, 46, is chairman of Walden International, Asia's top technology VC firm.  After acquiring a M.S. in nuclear engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology at 19, Mr Tan soon moved into venture capital when he joined the San Francisco-based Walden Group in the mid-1980s. He started

	Walden International and pioneered the US venture capital concept in Asia, contributing towards the promotion of early-stage technology investing in the Asia-Pacific.
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Name of recipient	Dr Tan Swie Hian, 陈瑞献
Class of graduation	Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literature, 1968
Achievements and highlights	<p>The polymath and versatile poet, writer, translator, painter and calligrapher first burst upon the local scene in 1968 with <i>The Giant</i>, a collection of poems considered the culmination of the Chinese modernist literary movement in Singapore and Malaysia. Swie Hian has since published 39 works of poetry, essays, stories, criticisms and translated works.</p> <p>More well-known to the public are his paintings in oil, Chinese ink and acrylic, his sculptures, calligraphy, cartogravures, prints and seal engravings that have been exhibited in Singapore, Asia and around the world, winning him countless honours including the French Knighthood of the Order of Arts and Letters (1979), the Singapore Cultural Medallion (1987), the Crystal Award from the World Economic Forum (2003), the Meritorious Service Medal (2003) conferred by Mr S R Nathan, President of Singapore, and the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters from NTU (2003).</p>

#### Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award

Name of recipient	Prof Chew Cheng Hai, 周清海
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Arts, 1967
Achievements and highlights	<p>Prof Chew is the driving force behind the landmark Confucius Institute at NTU, set to establish NTU as a major centre of Chinese language education.</p> <p>In Chinese language research, he has spearheaded the project to compile a global Chinese dictionary. The proposal was well-received and work started this year, strongly supported by the Ministry of Education in China. The successful implementation of the project will enhance the status of Singapore as the hub of Chinese language studies outside mainland China.</p> <p>Over the past 38 years, Prof Chew contributed greatly to various educational institutes and has also served in numerous national committees on Chinese language teaching and review.</p>

Name of recipient	Mr Chia Ban Seng, 谢万森
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 1960
Achievements and highlights	<p>Mr Chia Ban Seng's honorable achievements span across business, education and civic life. In the business arena, Mr Chia is managing director of IndoCement Singapore as well as a vice-president of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry.</p> <p>Mr Chia plays several leadership roles in education, including serving as a member of the NTU Council. The council provides the vision, guidance and management support for NTU to achieve its aims as a global university of excellence.</p>

	Mr Chia has devoted much of his time in fostering Nantah alumni activities. For over 10 years, he was president of The Association of Nanyang University Graduates. He also contributed in founding NTU's Tan Lark Sye Foundation and helped raise funds.
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Name of recipient	Prof Hew Choy Sin, 丘才新
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Science in Biology, 1960
Achievements and highlights	<p>Prof Hew is among the leading orchid scientists in the world and his lifelong research has helped build Singapore's reputation as a world-class orchid paradise. His Orchid Research Group, which includes both his students and scientists from around the world, has contributed research that has greatly benefited the Singapore orchid industry.</p> <p>Prof Hew is now an adjunct professor at NTU's Institute of Advanced Studies, where the hallmark is science at its highest level. He has served in professional bodies such as the Singapore National Academy of Science and is currently vice-chairman of the Tan Kah Kee Foundation.</p>

Name of recipient	Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, 符喜泉
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Commerce, 1971 Master of Business, 1996
Achievements and highlights	<p>Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon has played many roles with rare distinction – Minister of State for Community Development, Youth and Sports, Mayor of South West District, trade union leader and mother of three.</p> <p>For almost three decades, Mrs Yu-Foo served with the National Trades Union Congress. For her exemplary contribution to the labour movement, she was conferred the Rochdale Medal by the Singapore National Co-operative Federation in 1997.</p> <p>Held as a role model for women in Singapore, she was named Woman of the Year in 1995 for her work in trade unions as well as her role as a grassroots leader concerned with women's rights and family values.</p>

#### Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Name of recipient	Ms Chai Ee Juang, Eileen, 蔡宇妆
Class of graduation	Graduate Diploma in Education (Physical Education), 2005
Achievements and highlights	<p>Adept both on land and in water, this diverse athlete excels in gymnastics, diving and as well as running. Ms Chai Ee Juang, Eileen broke Singapore's 30-year 100m hurdles record at the 16th Asian Athletics Championships in South Korea this year. And she achieved this despite a nine-year break from competition (1995-2004).</p> <p>She won the Singapore Sports Council's Good Performance Award in Gymnastics when she was 11. Fighting injuries and fatigue, she went on to become the all-round champion in both the National Schools Gymnastics and Pesta Sukan National Gymnastics (1985-1991). She also won a bronze</p>

	medal at the 1991 SEA Games in Manila. In track and fields, she holds several National Junior records in the 100m hurdles. In diving she won the 1995 Best Diver of the Year Award from the Singapore Amateur Swimming Association.
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Name of recipient	Mr Leslie Kwok, 郭英华
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Engineering (Civil and Structural), 1999
Achievements and highlights	<p>Swimming champ Leslie Kwok not only wins medals for Singapore, he has also coached others in the sport, such as the 1999 NTU Swim Team for the Inter-Varsity Games and disabled children in swim clinics. In his undergrad days in NTU, he won a prestigious engineering award for entrepreneurial and academic excellence, and was the 1998 NTU Sportsman of the Year.</p> <p>In international competition, this Bachelor of Engineering (Civil and Structural) graduate from 1999, part-time model and self-confessed water-baby has won many medals in various national and international meets, and has represented Singapore in many competitions such as the Olympic Games in Sydney (2000), and most recently, winning a bronze medal in the 23rd SEA Games in Philippines (2005). Leslie also exhibits a strong entrepreneurial streak and is now managing a few lifestyle businesses.</p>

Name of recipient	Ms Lim Joo Lee, 林如丽
Class of graduation	Bachelor in Accountancy, 2001
Achievements and highlights	<p>Ms Lim Joo Lee is a recipient of the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, joining the ranks of former US President Bill Clinton and other luminaries. The 26-year-old graduated in 2001 with a Bachelor in Accountancy from NTU and went to acquire two M.Sc. degrees at Oxford University during her scholarship years.</p> <p>In her undergraduate days, she was the first female president of the NTU Students' Union (1999-2000). During her term, it raised \$250,000 for needy students and charity, and it tackled many student welfare issues. While at Oxford, she continued to be active in community work and participated in two projects to raise money for South Africa. She is now working as a management consultant.</p>

Name of recipient	Ms Diana Ser, 徐秀盈
Class of graduation	Master in Mass Communication, 2003
Achievements and highlights	<p>Broadcast journalist and newsreader Diana Ser has been very supportive in sharing her experiences with students and alumni in talks, panels, and forums, and is often featured in the school's promotional materials.</p> <p>Equally adept in print and broadcast journalism, Diana is a well-known face in over a decade of television work. The versatile and bilingual presenter has hosted many memorable programmes, including the launch of Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew's memoirs (2000), the President's Star Charity (1997/98), and the Asian Television Awards (1996). She was also involved in two successful current affairs shows – Get Rea! and What Women Want... Really. Most recently, High Stakes: The Casino Debate, anchored by Diana, was nominated for Best News/Current Affairs Programme at the</p>

	2005 Asian Television Awards.
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Name of recipient	Ms Stefanie Sun, 孙燕姿
Class of graduation	Bachelor in Business, 2000
Achievements and highlights	<p>Ms Sng Ee Tze, more commonly known as Stefanie Sun or Sun Yan Zi in Chinese, is often portrayed as the girl next-door who made good on the international stage. Probably the most popular local artist and one of the first to make major headway in a fiercely competitive Mandarin music scene, 27-year-old Stefanie graduated from NTU in 2000 with a Bachelor of Business, majoring in marketing. In 2000, she made her musical debut with the release of a self-titled album, Yan Zi.</p> <p>Nine albums with more than 8 million units sold to date, she has not looked back since, and her meteoric rise in the regional Mandarin pop music scene has inspired many more Singapore artistes to follow her example and make it big in Taiwan, China and Hong Kong. Stefanie has won over 33 awards and other accolades for her music including the Pan-Asian MTV Asia Awards. The pride of many Singaporeans and NTU, Stefanie had twice been chosen to perform the official theme song for our National Day.</p>

Nanyang Alumni Service Award

*(first presented in 1996 as the Alumni Service Award)*

Name of recipient	Mr Chan Sing Far, 陈新华
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Commerce, 1979
Achievements and highlights	<p>A successful businessman in the insurance industry, Mr Chan Sing Far has been actively involved in organising activities for the Nantah alumni, the most notable being the 4th Nantah Global Reunion Dinner, where 6,000 alumni from all over the globe converged in the NTU campus in 1995.</p> <p>Mr Chan has been serving in the Association of Nanyang University Graduates as a committee member since 1986. He was also in the organising committee that raised \$1.92 million for the Tan Lark Sai Professorship in Chinese Language and Culture in 2000. This year, he helped organise the 50th Nantah Anniversary golf tournament and dinner for 1,200 alumni. Outside of the alumni, he is also an active member and leader of many grassroots committees, associations and clans in Singapore.</p>

Name of recipient	Mr Chia Yeow Kheng, Roderick, 谢耀庆
Class of graduation	Bachelor in Engineering (Electrical and Electronics Engineering), 1998 Graduate Diploma in Technopreneurship and Innovation Programme, 2002
Achievements and highlights	<p>Mr Roderick Chia invented new technology products in his undergraduate days, started companies to sell these products, and now offers help to fellow NTU alumni in the competitive world of high-tech enterprise. After graduating from NTU, Mr Chia plunged right into the Internet business where he encountered the ups and downs of the exciting industry.</p> <p>Now CEO of Spiral Communications, he served as a judge at last year's NTU Business Plan Competition. He is also president of the TIP Alumni Association. For two years running, Mr Chia has led the association to tie up</p>

	with Stanford University students to organise the Global Entrepreneurship Conference, which explored ways to bring Silicon Valley expertise and culture to Singapore.
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Name of recipient	Ms Gan Chui Goh, 颜翠娥
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical and Electronics Engineering), 1990
Achievements and highlights	<p>President of the NTU Chinese Society Alumni since 2001, Ms Gan Chui Goh has been actively involved in organising activities for the alumni. Ms Gan has also given her time to other events held at NTU, such as sitting in on the interview panel for the selection of Nanyang Scholars in 2005, as well as sharing her experiences during networking sessions at the International Students' Centre.</p> <p>She started her career as an engineer, and then as a polytechnic lecturer before starting her business venture with Blue-dge Analytics and Consulting. Her passion in consumer intelligence, shared by a team of Blue-dge research analysts and chartered marketers, has pushed her towards achieving greater academic and professional excellence.</p>

Name of recipient	Mr Lim Nghee Huat, 林义发
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Commerce, 1975
Achievements and highlights	<p>Super-marathon man Mr Lim Nghee Huat, 52, set two national records in October this year when he ran 168km round the island to help raise \$168,000 for NTU's Endowment Fund. Age was no obstacle for Mr Lim, who was Nanyang University's Sportsman of the Year in 1974. He was the oldest of the main runners who took the challenge of completing the whole course, but he came in first, in 24 hours 45 minutes.</p> <p>A running champion since 1972, Lim has completed half a dozen marathons, and has represented Singapore in triathlon competitions as well as the gruelling Ironman World Championship in Hawaii in 1989, where he was the fastest finisher from Asia outside Japan. He was also a co-founder of the Triathlon Association of Singapore, and has served as chairman of the National Triathlon Training Squad from 1997 – 2000.</p>

Name of recipient	Mr Siva Gopal S/O Thaiyalan
Class of graduation	Diploma in Education, 2003 Bachelor of Science in Education, 2005
Achievements and highlights	<p>Mr Siva Gopal s/o Thaiyalan's energy is inexhaustible. When he was a trainee teacher at NIE, he started, organised and led many student activities and programmes such as the youth expedition projects (YEP) to neighbouring countries. He also started NIE's Service-Learning Club (SLC), which organises service-learning projects to develop all-rounded teachers.</p> <p>He was awarded the Rotary International gold medal for best all-rounder student, leadership and dedication to student activities when he completed his Diploma in Physical Education in 2003. This June, he led a team to Sri Lanka for Tsunami Rebuilding efforts, for which the team received the inaugural Nanyang Award for Humanity this year.</p>

Name of recipient	Mr Tan Yew Beng, 陈友明
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Commerce, 1980
Achievements and highlights	<p>Mr Tan Yew Beng is chairman and managing director of three companies and a director of five more, as well as serving actively in another eight social and community organisations.</p> <p>As vice-president of the Association of Nanyang University Graduates, Mr Tan was the organising chairman of the 1995 4th Nantah Global Reunion Dinner which attracted more than 6,000 alumni all over the world to their former campus ground. He was also organising chairman of other reunion gatherings for the past 10 years, including the Nantah Nite 2005, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Nanyang University. Furthermore, Mr Tan assisted in setting up the Tan Lark Sye Professorship in Chinese Language and Culture in 1998.</p>

Name of recipient	Mr Willy Nusantara, 黄荣顺
Class of graduation	Bachelor of Commerce, 1973
Achievements and highlights	<p>Mr Nusantara has been active in the formation of the NTU Alumni Association (Indonesia chapter) and has been the driving force in fostering alumni relations in Indonesia. Thanks to his efforts, a reunion dinner was organised in Jakarta in February this year, and hosted for the first time by NTU President Dr Su Guaning.</p> <p>Since graduation, he has spent more than 40 years in the Indonesian financial services, banking and insurance industry rising to the top of the profession. He is also active in social and community services, including serving as board executive of the Indonesian Skill Foundation and member of the advisory board on managing the Indonesian Earthquake Reinsurance Pool.</p>

Name of recipient	Ms Yeong Siew Ting, Dawn, 杨秀婷
Class of graduation	Bachelor in Engineering (Electrical and Electronics Engineering), 2003
Achievements and highlights	<p>She has great aspirations on forging closer networks among the NTU alumni and building a stronger alumni association. Ms Yeong Siew Ting, Dawn, 25, is now serving her third year as general secretary for the EEE Alumni Association, organising activities that bring students and alumni members together.</p> <p>During university days, she was the Hall of Residence 8's orientation camp business manager, and EEE Club's business manager and vice president for projects. While serving as business manager, she helped the EEE Club solicit for a record number of cash sponsors.</p>

**NTU ALUMNI NIGHT**  
**Saturday 17 December 2005 5.30pm**  
**Nanyang Auditorium, Nanyang Technological University**

**Programme**

- 5.30pm           Arrival of alumni and guests at Nanyang Auditorium
- 6.00pm           Arrival of Dr Su Guaning  
                  President, NTU
- 6.30pm           Arrival of Guest-of-Honour,  
                  Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong
- 6.45pm           Welcome address by Dr Su Guaning
- Speech by Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong
- Presentation of Nanyang Alumni Awards
- Musical item by NTU alumni, staff and students
- Tour of exhibition "NTU Celebrates 50 Years & Beyond" at Nanyang  
                  Auditorium foyer
- 8.30pm           Dinner reception at the NTU Quad
- 9.30pm           End
- Candlelight rendezvous for alumni at various favourite locations on  
                  campus